

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

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CINCSO FOR POLAD

ATTN: IOR/M, IPS, IBS, RIM , ILA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BR, PFOR, XM, OPEC, ENRG

SUBJECT: DAILY MEDIA REACTION REPORT

1. MEXICO CITY FONMIN MEETING:

A. INDEPENDENT JORNAL DO BRASIL (RIO) EDITORIAL , WHCIH
URGES MELDING OF BRAZILIAN FOREIGN POLICY BETWEEN MEDICI
AND GEISEL GOVERNMENTS, SEES MEXICO MEETING WITH KISSINGER
AS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR MEANINGFUL DIALOG:"KISSINGER
REPRESNTS A NEW FACT IN WORLD OF POLITICS. THIS VIGOROUS
ARCHITET OF NEW STRUCTURES OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
PEOPLES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LEAVE UNDISTURBED LATAM'S
CUSTOMARY LUKEWARM RELATIONS WITH WASHINGTON. THUS, IT
IS WORTH THE EFFORT TO MEET HIM WITH OUR IDEAS EXPRESSED
IN A DAYLIGHT CLEAR MANNER AND WITH NECESSARY CONFIDENCE
IN LONG-TERM PROJECTS. UNLESS WE ARE VERY WRONG, MR. KISSINGER
WILL FIND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONFERENCE
AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MUCH MORE THAN THE AGENDA INDICATES."

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B. CONSERVATIVE JORNAL DA TARDE(SAO PAULO) REPORT SAYS GOB STRATEGY IS TO SEE THAT "THE 'DOCUMENT OF BOGOTA'... IS NOT SUBSTANTIALY ALTERED IN THE PREPARATORY MEETINGS" IN MEXICO. ARTICLE QUOTES FOROFF SOURCES AS SAYING "SUCCESS OF THE MEETING WILL DEPEND UPON THE WAY IN WHICH THE LATAM NATIONS' PROPOSALS ARE PUT BEFORE KISSINGER. BRAZIL HAS THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT ANY IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. WILL BE POSSIBLE ONLY IF (PROPOSALS) ARE NOT RADICAL AND ARE NOT BLATANTLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S." ARTICLE ADDS THAT TOUCHY POINT AT MEETING WILL BE THE PANAMA CANAL, AND THAT BRAZIL IS SPECIALLY INTERESTED IN ISSUES RE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND MULTINATIONAL FIRMS. (DEC 27)

C. MEDIA SPECULATION ON RELATED SECSTATE VISIT TO BRAZIL REPORTED TODAY'S BRASILIA 8791.

2. KISSINGER DEC 27 PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN MODERATE NEWSPLAY. CONSERVATIVE O GLOBO (RIO) PLAYED UP SECSTATE'S DENIAL OF PLANS TO VISIT CUBA AND CONSERVATIVE O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO FRONT-PAGED NEWSLEAD THAT KISSINGER WAS DISAPPOINTED ABOUT LACK OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN U.S. AND EUROPE IN 1973.

3. WORLD PETROLEUM CRISIS:
A. MOST PAPERS' FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE TODAY IS ON U.S. CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR GASOLINE RATIONING.

B. COLUMNIST NEWTON CARLOS WRITES IN LIBERAL FOLHA DE SAO PAULO THAT OPEC COUNTRIES' "PETROLEUM WEAPON" HAS LIMITATIONS NOT WIDELY RECOGNIZED, BECAUSE THEY MUST IMPORT FOOD AND MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS: "THIS WEAPON(PETROLEUM) HAS LIMITS AND MAY FIZZLE AT ANY MOMENT. THE SYMPTOMS OF EXHAUSTION ARE APPEARING NOW AMONG THE ABSOLUTE MONARCHS WHO ARE ACTING MORE IN THEIR OWN NAMES THAN IN THE NAME OF THE ARAB PEOPLE."(DEC 27)

4. U.S. PRESIDENCY: O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO LEAD EDITORIAL CRITICALLY DISSECTS JAMES RESTON COLUMN ON STATE OF U.S. AND U.S. PRESIDENCY, SAYING:"PRESIDENT NIXON, WE RECOGNIZE, UNCLASSIFIED

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FALLS SHORT OF THE NEEDS OF HIS COUNTRY AND OF THE WORLD AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME, BUT IT WOULD BE HARD TO FIND ANYONE ON THE U.S. POLITICAL SCENE WHO REPRESENTS A REAL ALTERNATIVE FOR HIS IMPERFECT LEADERSHIP."(DEC 28)

5. MIDEAST COVERAGE REMAINS MODERATELY HEAVY, EMPHASIZING EGYPT'S THREAT TO RENEW FIGHTING IF ISRAEL FAILS TO REMOVE TROOPS FROM ARAB-CLAIMED TERRITORIES.

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